Attorney General Bruning: Kansas Man Gets Prison for Sexual Assault of Child

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LINCOLN – Attorney General Jon Bruning today announced that Shon Collins, of Leavenworth, Kan., was sentenced to 66-80 years in prison by the Box Butte District Court for sexually assaulting a child and possessing child pornography.

"Mr. Collins came to this state to assault a 13-year-old girl," Bruning said. "Today's sentence shows that Nebraskans will not tolerate those who prey on children."

Collins, 41, contacted his victim online, eventually arranging to visit Nebraska for the purposes of meeting for sex. The victim was questioned by her parents after the meeting, prompting a call to law enforcement. A search of Collins' computer and cell phone found child pornography.

Collins received 50-60 years for 1st degree sexual assault of a child and 16-20 years for possession of child pornography. The sentences will be served consecutively.

LB1199, passed in 2006, created the offense of 1st degree sexual assault of a child. A mandatory 15-year sentence was established through 2009's LB97. Both bills were part of the Attorney General's legislative package.

Because of the mandatory sentence, Collins will not be eligible for parole for 40 ½ years.

Assistant Attorney General Corey O' Brien and Box Butte County Attorney K.J. Hutchinson handled the case.

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